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Attorney Docket No. 21295/21
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Gerd Schneider, et al.

Application No.: 09/681,186

Group Art Unit: 2876

FILED: February 14, 2001

Examiner: N/A

FOR: *METHOD FOR EXAMINING STRUCTURES ON A SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATE*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

By: Natalie S. Allman 6/1/01
Natalie S. Allman Date

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION BEFORE THE MAILING DATE OF A FIRST ACTION ON THE
MERITS)**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.



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I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- a. X **Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.**

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE

(check at least one box)

- a. X **Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language or were cited in an English language Search Report, a copy of which is attached hereto (concise explanation not required).**
- b. _____ **A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:**
- c. _____ **The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:**

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IV. **THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

(check one box)

- a. _____ within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (1)). No fee or certification is required.
- b. _____ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2)). No fee or certification is required.
- c. X before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition, if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 500369.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 1, 2001

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